

REMARKS

In the Office Action, claims 7-10 and 26-39 were allowed. Claims 11, 24 and 25 were rejected. By this paper, Applicants have amended claims 11 and 24. These amendments do not add any new matter. Upon entry of the amendments, claims 7-11 and 24-39 will remain pending in the present application and are believed to be in condition for allowance. In view of the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 7-10 and 26-39 are allowable. Specifically, on page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner stated that in claims 7 and 26, “the cable identification data is considered to be positively set forth, and to be actually stored in the memory, not just capable of being stored in the memory.” Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of the claims and for indicating at least one reason for allowability of the above claims.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 11, 24 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Powers et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,360,120 (hereafter “Powers”) in view of Lin et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,289,243 (hereafter “Lin”); and in view of Powers over Hampele et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,713,927 (hereafter “Hampele”). Although Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, Applicants have amended the claims in view of the reasons for allowability stated by the Examiner and recited above.

In the context of the rejection, as well as other portions of the Office Action the Examiner’s wording of the rejection appears to indicate that if claims 11, 24 and 25 actually contained cable identification stored on the memory (e.g., storing cable identification data), as opposed to the memory being capable of storing memory, the claims would be in condition for allowance. For example, the Examiner stated that

in claims 7 and 26, “the cable identification data is considered to be positively set forth, and to be actually stored in the memory, not just capable of being stored in the memory.” Office Action, p. 3. Although Applicants do not necessarily agree with the Examiner’s position, in an effort to expedite prosecution of the application, the present claims 11 and 24 have been amended to recite, *inter alia*, “a memory device disposed in the station adapter and storing cable identification data” (emphasis added) and “a memory device disposed in the memory support and storing cable identification data” (emphasis added), respectively.

For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections under §103, and allowance of the claims.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks and amendments set forth above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that a telephonic interview will help speed this application toward issuance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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